

**From:** Richard Kosvanec  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/26/02 12:49pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I am writing as a concerned citizen who is both shocked and dismayed that a convicted monopolist seem to be getting even more monopoly power handed to them via the justice system.

Microsoft continues to ignore consent decrees, release insecure products, bury, buy or steal from their competition (they call it a 'strategic alliance') and these practices must be stopped.

The biggest insult to the Justice system, Democracy and the American People is that Microsoft actually has a say in what their punishment will be. Since when do convicted felons have a say in their punishment?

My opinion is this should be done:

- 1) Microsoft should pay back no less than 10% of their highest net worth back to those that have been harmed by the leveraging their monopoly.
- 2) Pay all of the court costs so taxpayers such as myself are not footing the bill.
- 3) No more "secret and exclusive contracts" with OEM's. If I do not want a computer with Windows on it, I should not have to PAY for it anyway!
- 4) All of their "Office" file formats should be opened up. This should not be an option. They can keep their program's source code a secret, however, any data created with those programs should not be subject to the whim of a monopolist. Microsoft seems to forget too quickly that it is my data and my computer, not theirs.
- 5) Any and all versions of their operating systems that they discontinue support for should have its source code released. Just because they do not support it, does not mean that it is no longer used, and would decrease the "upgrade treadmill" Microsoft is so famous for creating.
- 6) Along the same lines as #4 --and I can not emphasize this enough--- strict adherence to network/Internet/web protocols. No proprietary extensions (Microsoft's version of Java that was Windows only), no co-opting standards (Kerberos) and no drastic changes to break others products (SMB and others).
- 7) Look at the suggestions submitted to slashdot.org that echo my sentiments and expound even more my suggestions:  
<http://slashdot.org/comments.pl?sid=26726&cid=0&pid=0&startat=&threshold=3&mode=flat&commentsort=0&op=Change>

Thank you for your time.

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